



Department of Justice

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FORMER ELECTED OFFICIAL RECEIVES FIVE-YEAR SENTENCE FOR POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

COLUMBUS - J. Timothy Halter, age 65, of 6391 Sherman Road, Galena, Ohio, was sentenced in United States District Court here today to a term of five years imprisonment for possession of child pornography. The sentence is the maximum allowed by the law under which Halter was convicted.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, Stanley J. Borgia, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation Cincinnati Field Division, and Genoa Township Police Chief Robert Taylor announced the sentence handed down today by United States District Court Judge Edmund A. Sargus, Jr.

On November 18, 2005, a U.S. District Court jury convicted Halter of a one-count indictment charging him with possession of child pornography. The jury found that on November 9, 1999, Halter possessed one or more computer graphic files that contained images of children under the age of 18 involved in explicit sexual conduct. He was charged with possessing 50 specific images of known victims and 2 movies.

Halter was a former township trustee in Berlin Township. He has been in custody since his conviction.

"Combating child abuse is a major concern for law enforcement," Lockhart said. "Those who seek to possess these images create an incentive for others to sexually abuse children. Law enforcement will find these people and prosecute them in our efforts to eliminate this type of abuse against our children."

Halter's sentence includes three years of supervised release after his prison term and a fine of \$12,500. During his supervised release, he is to register with the State of Ohio as a sex offender and seek mental health counseling. Judge Sargus recommended that Halter serve his prison term at the Butner Federal Correctional Complex in North Carolina. That is one of two federal facilities offering treatment for sex offenders as well as punishment.

Lockhart commended the Genoa Township Police Department, FBI, the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigations, Department of Justice Trial Attorney Alexandra Gelber with the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section and Assistant U.S. Attorney Deborah A. Solove.

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